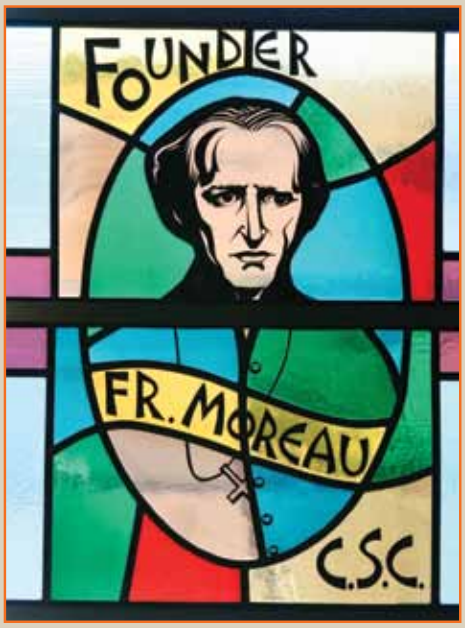

Moreau Catholic High School

Catholic Identity and Holy Cross Mission Assessment

2009-2010

"Educating is the art of helping young people to COMPLETENESS."

— Blessed Basil Anthony Moreau 1849

Moreau Catholic High School

Dear Community Members and Visiting Committee,

In March of 2003, we were blessed to welcome and host Brother Donald Blauvelt, CSC and Brother Stephen Walsh, CSC in an examination of our Holy Cross Mission. During that mission assessment process, the Brothers spent two days with our community, listening to students and faculty and staff, and talking about what it means to live out the core values of a Catholic, Holy Cross education.

Now, six years later, our school has undergone a similar process of assessing our Catholic Identity and Holy Cross Mission. As a community, we sought input from students, faculty, staff, alumni, parents and community members. We listened to stories of all the amazing ways that our Catholic Identity and Holy Cross Mission are alive and nurtured within our school and woven into the very fabric of our community. We also asked for feedback regarding areas where we could build, improve and grow. This document is the starting point for the assessment team, made up of Holy Cross Brothers and educators from around the nation, who will visit Moreau Catholic in February, 2010 to observe, question, affirm and support our work as educators.

After many meetings, surveys, interviews, discussions, and evidence gathering, we are proud to share this document with you—a document we, as a school community, have developed together. It is a testament to the rich heritage and legacy of Holy Cross that is living and breathing among our alumni, students, teachers, staff, parents and friends. We are proud of the many contributions made by the incredibly supportive community that makes up Moreau Catholic High School.

We invite you to spend some time reading this document to learn about how we educate our students in the faith, what makes us a family, what gives us hope, and how we show our respect for one another in the daily education of the hearts and minds of our students—all within the context of our Catholic faith and our Holy Cross Mission!

God Bless,

Terry Lee
President

Lauren Lek '97
Principal

Catholic Identity and Holy Cross Mission Assessment, Self-Study Document
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Moreau Catholic High School
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OUR HERITAGE IN THE HOLY CROSS TRADITION

The United States was introduced to the Congregation of Holy Cross in 1842. Centered in Sainte Croix, France, Blessed Basil Anthony Moreau, founder of the Congregation of Holy Cross, commissioned Father Edward Sorin and six Holy Cross Brothers to open a school near South Bend, Indiana. Today that school is known as the University of Notre Dame. Approximately twenty-five schools, colleges, and universities are now sponsored by Holy Cross in the United States.

Moreau Catholic High School was founded in 1965 by the Brothers of Holy Cross as a four-year, college preparatory high school. The school is the only secondary school in the world named after the founder of Holy Cross. Moreau Catholic has sister-schools sponsored by the Congregation of Holy Cross in the mid-western and eastern sectors of the United States. As a Holy Cross sponsored school of the Congregation's South-West Province, Moreau Catholic is closely affiliated with several other Holy Cross institutions: Saint Francis High School, Mountain View, California; Notre Dame High School, Sherman Oaks, California; Holy Cross High School, San Antonio, Texas; Saint Edward's University, Austin, Texas; and the Holy Cross School, New Orleans, Louisiana.

Blessed Basil Moreau passed on to Holy Cross a vision and philosophy of education that is essentially Catholic Christian. The philosophical and practical aim of any Holy Cross school is to prepare students to be members of society and people of God. To accomplish these objectives, Moreau provided an educational framework to assure that there is evidence of a correspondence between academic quality and Christian faith. He envisioned that a Holy Cross education must provide whatever is necessary for students to live productively in the society in which they find themselves and to live fully as Christians. Providing these necessities for our students is the concern of every department, program and dimension of daily school life. For example, we believe that every teacher, administrator, and staff member is called to share in the responsibility of creating and maintaining a safe and caring environment in which students learn to be competent citizens and committed Christians.

Expounding on his educational philosophy in 1849, Blessed Basil Moreau wrote:

"We can state the kind of teaching we hope to give in a Holy Cross school. Even though we base our philosophy on faith, no one need to fear that we will confine our teaching within narrow and unscientific boundaries. We will accept the discoveries of science without unscientific boundaries and prejudice in a manner adapted to the needs of our times. We do not want our students to be ignorant of anything they should know. We will always place instruction side-by-side with education; the mind will not be cultivated at the expense of the heart. While we prepare useful citizens for society, we shall likewise do our utmost to prepare citizens for heaven."

Three points from Moreau's vision of Catholic schools are particularly striking:

1. We will not confine our teaching within narrow and unscientific boundaries. A Holy Cross school provides an integrated Catholic education; it does not attempt to redefine reality by faith. A Holy Cross education strives to see reality with the eyes of faith by trying not so much to rearrange the world, but as to transform it through the teaching and example given by Jesus Christ. We believe that to redefine reality by faith, or rearranging the world rather than dealing with it, reflects a certain fundamentalism which is inconsistent with Catholic tradition.
2. We do not want our students to be ignorant of anything they should know. In a Holy Cross school, this is a moral imperative, duty and social responsibility of everyone associated with it. We believe that any negligence in this responsibility is cause for injustice to the students served by our school.
3. We will always place instruction side-by-side with education. For Blessed Basil Moreau, this distinction is not simply a semantic one. Instruction is understood as transmitting particular knowledge and skills. Education fosters the values, attitudes, and behaviors which will use that knowledge and those skills appropriately and productively.

In a Holy Cross school, such as Moreau Catholic, instruction is essential to the mission of the school, but its meaning and direction are rooted in education. For example, we believe that the instructor must always be the educator; that without the blend of both, teaching is incomplete and students are not fully served. This fusion is necessary to prepare, as Blessed Basil Moreau says, "citizens for society" and "citizens for heaven."

That instruction and education are to flourish in an environment where family spirit is evident and dominant was among Blessed Basil Moreau's deepest desires. From the very origins of the Congregation of Holy Cross, family spirit marked its members and the institutions which they founded. Moreau believed that the mission of Holy Cross would be successfully attained once his followers were united in the cause of good.

We believe that the future of society and religion is truly in the hands of everyone involved in the ministry of a Holy Cross school. The education given today determines the quality of life tomorrow. The following seven points summarized the profile of a Holy Cross education as envisioned by Blessed Basil Moreau:

1. Holy Cross education is concerned primarily with leading students to understand and to live Christianity.
2. Holy Cross education enables students to become informed and active citizens.
3. Holy Cross education nurtures an environment of collaboration, supported by a family spirit, which touches and includes everyone associated with the school.
4. Holy Cross education teaches respect for personal, social, racial, political, religious, and linguistic diversity.
5. Holy Cross education fosters participation in the life of the Church, and promotes dialogue between faith and knowledge, faith and daily experience, and faith and culture.
6. Holy Cross education maintains standards of excellence established by local, state, federal, and Diocesan accreditation procedures and requirements.
7. Holy Cross education maintains a global perspective.

These seven points provide the substance of an education process of information, formation and transformation, and they are inseparable within

the heritage of a Holy Cross education. We believe that: Information is comprised of the knowledge and skills communicated to students which is aimed at preparing them for life and work in the future. It takes on an ethical dimension once it is put to use. However, information is not an end in itself; it is ever at the service of formation.

Formation is the intellectual, social, and spiritual development of students which is found in every aspect of school life. It guides students in determining how they will use the information, knowledge and skills at their disposal. Even formation is not an end in itself; it is directed toward transformation.

Transformation is where the values and qualities of life which students are taught and encouraged to embrace will shape the world around them. It becomes a reality within and around students' lives as they use knowledge and skills with personal integrity and consistency to the gospel. Thus, students in a Holy Cross school become agents of transformation.

Blessed Basil Moreau's vision for students educated within the heritage of Holy Cross continues to be truly liberating today as it was in his own time. His vision lies at the core of our school's mission. The Holy Cross schools of the South-West Province have implemented four major Holy Cross themes: "Building Respect," "Educating Hearts and Minds," "Being Family," and "Bringing Hope;" to help focus our communities mission throughout the school year. This year's theme is "Educating Hearts and Minds."

HISTORY OF MOREAU CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

Moreau Catholic is a four-year college preparatory high school sponsored by the Brothers of Holy Cross, South-West Province. The school is governed by a Board of Trustees and maintains an enrollment of approximately 900 students on a fourteen acre campus. Moreau Catholic High School is fully accredited by the Western Association of Schools and Colleges and the Western Catholic Educational Association, and is the only Catholic high school located in Southern Alameda County.

Construction of the original facilities commenced in the spring of 1965 on acreage that was a portion of an orchard adjacent to Holy Sepulchre Cemetery. Moreau Catholic High School was one of the three private Catholic secondary schools in the Diocese of Oakland erected with substantial support from the people of the Diocese, the Most Reverend Floyd L. Begin, Bishop of Oakland, and the schools' sponsoring religious congregations.

The school opened in the fall of 1965 with 103 ninth grade boys. Since construction of the main facilities was in progress at that time, Moreau Catholic High School was temporarily located on the parish grounds of St. Bede's Church in Hayward. It was through the generosity of the pastor and parishioners of St. Bede's that Moreau Catholic commenced its operations in 1965. Brother Fisher Iwasko, C.S.C., was the school's founding principal. Construction continued through the spring of 1967, although classes were conducted in the main building's first floor from September, 1966. Eight months later, on May 14, 1967, the school was dedicated by the Bishop of Oakland and the Apostolic Delegate to the United States.

The original facilities of Moreau Catholic High School consisted of 27 classrooms, 5 science laboratories, 3 lecture rooms, a language laboratory, guidance offices, chapel, large auditorium, cafeteria, gymnasium, music rooms, and maintenance facilities. Exterior facilities still include football, soccer, and baseball fields, a track and parking areas.

At the request of Bishop Begin, Moreau Catholic High School became a coeducational institution commencing with the 1969-1970 academic year when 177 ninth grade girls were enrolled. To meet the needs of the school's increased enrollment, Garin Hall was constructed during the 1970-71 school year. The building provided an additional gymnasium, locker and shower facilities, classrooms, and home economics laboratories. During the summer of 1982, a connecting arcade between the second floor of the main building and Garin Hall was constructed, thereby enhancing the utility of each building. In June 1983, the third floor of the main building ceased to be the religious community residence for the Brothers of Holy Cross. This enabled further expansion of student, faculty, and staff facilities and services to the campus community.

The alumni, faculty and staff are proud of the school's reputation as an excellent academic institution. For example, Moreau Catholic was nationally recognized in June 1984 as one of the 60 exemplary American private schools. The school was recognized a second time in the spring of 1989. These awards were bestowed by the United States Department of Education and the Council for American Private Education. The continuing excellence of Moreau Catholic's faculty, staff, students and parents bears strong witness to the qualities of the school's academic and co-curricular programs, and to the success of the school's alumni.

March 1987 marked the opening of the Frank O. Ivaldi Student Center. This project represented the continuing response of the Moreau Catholic community to its long range plan for the future of its students and the school's mission. In the summer of 1987 the Liebowitz Arts Complex was refurbished. In 1993, the school affirmed its Catholic identity and Holy Cross Mission and became Moreau Catholic High School.

In September 2007, after the completion of the Transforming Tomorrow project, which added a new front lobby, offices, science lab, MCTV studio and an expanded library, the school was rededicated to Blessed Basil Moreau. Blessed Moreau was beatified in LeMans, France on September 15, 2007. The 2007-2008 school year also marked the beginning of Moreau Catholic's student one-to-one laptop program, ushering in 21st century learning and integrating technology throughout the curriculum.

MISSION STATEMENT

Moreau Catholic High School is dedicated to the legacy and values of the Congregation of Holy Cross and its founder Blessed Basil Moreau. We are a college-preparatory school committed to outstanding achievement. As a community of faith, we prepare our students through academic, social and spiritual learning experiences that form and transform them as they become responsible citizens of our global community.

STATEMENT OF PHILOSOPHY

Moreau Catholic High School enters into a partnership with the family and provides opportunities and means by which students are guided to higher levels of spiritual, social and academic development. We believe this partnership is given meaning through the legacy and values established by Blessed Basil Moreau, founder of the Congregation of Holy Cross. This partnership is enhanced by the spirit, vision, and collaboration shared among the entire school community and the Diocese of Oakland. As a community of faith, we believe a Holy Cross education is centered in Christian values and adheres to high standards and expectations for individual achievement and social responsibility. We are guided by Jesus Christ to give witness to our faith through lived experiences—prayer, liturgical celebrations, retreats, and community service. These experiences nurture dignity and respect for religious and cultural diversity.

A Moreau Catholic High School education facilitates the formation of qualities such as integrity, justice, stewardship, love, compassion, and hope. We educate students to become people of values as well as scholars. By cultivating hearts and minds, our students become responsible citizens and a positive force in the transformation of our global community. Through our college-preparatory curriculum, our students become lifelong learners and effective communicators. Our commitment to outstanding achievement ensures that our students become knowledgeable and skillful in areas of moral and ethical decision making, critical thinking, accountability, technology and adaptability. Our co-curricular programs enhance the academic and spiritual dimensions of our school by providing formative activities that foster community, leadership, creativity, and sportsmanship. These learning experiences are achieved in a safe, caring educational environment facilitated by a professional and dedicated faculty and staff.

The fulfillment of our mission as Holy Cross educators is facilitated through the partnership between the family and school community. The knowledge, skills, and values taught to and embraced by our students help them shape their future and the world.

COMMUNITY PROFILE AND SCHOOL PROFILE:
Moreau Catholic is located in Hayward, California, a suburban Bay Area community with a population of 149,205 and serves Southern Alameda County. According to the US Census Bureau, the estimated median household income in 2007 was $60,771 with approximately 11% of Hayward residents living below poverty. Seventy-five percent of Hayward residents have graduated from high school and less than 20% have a Bachelor's degree or higher.

The school has 900 students currently enrolled in grades 9 through 12. The ethnic composition of the student body is:

- 4% African-American
- 44% Asian
- 17% European-American
- 17% Hispanic 2% Pacific Islander
- 1% Native-American
- 15% declaring other cultural backgrounds

College statistics for the class of 2009 (192 students)

- 93 students received a minimum of one college scholarship
- 51 students received more than one college scholarship/award
- 26 students were recognized with over 200 service hours

FACULTY AND STAFF DEMOGRAPHICS

Moreau Catholic is comprised of a diverse group of faculty and staff committed to the education of all students.

Faculty and Staff	2009-2010
Academic Faculty *	69
w/in progress Credentials	66
w/in progress Masters	35
w/in progress Doctorate	2
Support Staff	41
Faculty & Staff Alumni	11
Total	110

*Administration, teachers, librarian, counselors, chaplain

Faculty and missStaff Years of Service At Moreau	Numbers
1 - 5 years	47
6 - 10 years	18
11 - 15 years	15
16 - 20 years	6
21 - 25 years	7
25 - 30 years	9
30 + years	8

EXPECTED SCHOOLWIDE LEARNING RESULTS

1. Within the heritage and values of Holy Cross, students will maintain a meaningful relationship with God.
2. Students will be life-long learners able to meet their life needs.
3. Students will communicate effectively.
4. Students will demonstrate social responsibility and community service.

The Four Pillars

Pillar One: Message
Pillar Two: Community
Pillar Three: Service
Pillar Four: Prayer

Examples of Message

The Mariner wheel is located at the entry of our school and holds a relic of Blessed Basil Moreau.

"Moreau Catholic High School is probably one of the greatest high schools to portray Catholic traditions. Teachers are very friendly, helpful, and easy to approach for any kind of help."
- student

Mariner graduates from the Class of 2009.

"Moreau does an amazing job at incorporating and stressing the importance of the Catholic faith and really getting us directly involved. Most students that I know genuinely respect such efforts."
- student

Alumni Kathleen Radecke '85, Assistant Superintendent of the Oakland Diocese, Lauren Lek '97, Principal, Sister Barbara Bray, Superintendent of the Oakland Diocese, and Terry Lee, President.

"I love how our Catholic faith is seamlessly woven into our school culture and how it fosters a sense of family."
- educator

Message

Pillar One: Message

Moreau Catholic High School is committed to living the Catholic, Holy Cross heritage. The school, guided by the Holy Spirit, sees everything through the eyes of faith.

To Teach As Jesus Did: The integration of religious truth and values with the rest of life is brought about…not only by its [the school's] unique curriculum but, more importantly, by the presence of teachers who express an integrated approach to their private and professional lives.

Holy Cross, "Christian Education," Preface: We shall always place education side-by-side with instruction; the mind will not be cultivated at the expense of the heart. While we prepare useful citizens for society, we shall likewise do our utmost to prepare citizens for heaven.

WCEA Factors: Indicator 1 - The school has a mission statement and a philosophy statement which indicate the integration of the Roman Catholic Faith into all aspects of school life. Indicator 3 – The school uses a Religion curriculum and instruction that is faithful to Roman Catholic Church teachings, and meets the requirements set forth by the USCCB. Indicator 4 - The formation of teachers for catechetical and instructional competence is ongoing. Indicator 7 - There is widespread use of signs, sacraments, traditions and rituals of the Roman Catholic Church throughout the school. Indicator 8 - All school personnel are actively engaged in bringing the Good News of Jesus into the total educational experience.

Criterion 1: The school fosters a Catholic, Holy Cross identity through its life and activities.

Moreau Catholic High School is committed to providing students with a Holy Cross education that forms and transforms them through the curricular and co-curricular programs. In the freshman and sophomore years, all students take 10 units of Theology. In the junior and senior years, students are required to take one course from three distinct components: Catholic Teaching, Social Justice and Spirituality. Upper division students can focus on an area of particular interest through the selection of their Theology electives.

In English, teachers use various resources to link Catholic values back to the ethical components of the text, specifically calling students' attention to the lens of ethical Catholic teaching when evaluating themes and character dilemmas. In all content areas, faculty members teach students about the ethical use of technology and the values-based education surrounding independent work (i.e. learning opportunities surrounding plagiarism and cheating).

In the co-curricular programs, our Holy Cross identity and philosophy is woven throughout the school. The philosophy of the Athletic department focuses on producing scholar athletes who develop a balance between academics and competition. All coaches and athletes support the CIF standards of "Pursuing Victory with Honor." Coaches remind players of the importance of acting as ambassadors for our school and displaying characteristics of true Holy Cross athletes. Icons on uniforms, such as the cross and anchor, are easily recognizable. Adults help students focus on respect and learning, and promoting athletes to work hard as a team in the pursuit of a common goal, building a connection to what is modeled in our Gospels.

Moreau Catholic also boasts over 40 unique student clubs, each focusing on educating the community about their specific culture or area of emphasis, as well as responding to the needs of our community from a Holy Cross perspective. From National Honor Society tutors working with our current students and students in our Catholic parish schools, to the Filipino Club raising money for social causes, our Holy Cross calling is evident. We call for students to identify with the needs of their community and respond from a Catholic foundation.

In the presentation to our prospective students, our introductory video spends time talking about the history of our founder, Blessed Basil Moreau, and the uniqueness of a Catholic, Holy Cross education. Prospective students learn about how the Catholic identity of the school compels all students to be committed to service to others, hospitality and respect, and creating an overall culture of support. Students, faculty and staff at Moreau Catholic share how their experience here is marked by kindness, encouragement, support and compassion. All of these hallmarks of our Catholic, Holy Cross identity influence our interactions with one another.

From our schoolwide liturgical celebrations, daily morning schoolwide prayer, to our intimate Wednesday morning liturgies, our Catholic identity is woven throughout all aspects of the school community. Our community feels strongly that Moreau Catholic excels in this particular criterion, with over 84% of our students stating in the survey that they *Always/*

Examples of Message

Moreau Catholic celebrates the Feast of All Soul's Day at our schoolwide Liturgy on November 2, 2009.

"We have a parish leader on campus and he is very involved in the school activities. He is also very friendly and likes to get to know all the students. His door is always open and I always see him with a smile."
- student

President Terry Lee and Principal Lauren Lek '97 welcome Bishop Cordileone to our annual Parish Leadership Recognition Dinner.

"All faculty and staff members incorporate Holy Cross tradition into our curriculum, such as Father Moreau Day and constant reminders of our school mission and theme through the Holy Cross tradition."
- student

The mural of Notre Dame and St. Edwards hangs in our school's library to remind all of us of our Holy Cross heritage.

"I feel that 'Father Moreau Day' is a great way we are informed about Holy Cross tradition. Not only is it fun but it connects us to other Holy Cross schools around the world."
- student

Message

Usually see this throughout our campus. Similarly, 88% of faculty and staff and 77% of community members also felt the same.

Another way our students celebrate their Catholicity is through our four-year retreat program. Our frosh retreat allows for students to draw closer as a community to their own faith life and with each other, creating life-long bonds. The sophomore year focuses on our immersion trip that integrates the Catholic Social Teaching themes of social justice and service to the poor. The junior and senior retreats are opportunities for our upper division students to find a deeper, personal, spiritual life through thoughtful, reflective time. The junior retreat theme of "Strength for the Journey" focuses on the abiding presence of God. Moreau Catholic's senior Kairos retreat offers silent reflection, group-sharing and liturgical celebrations. This includes discussion of the teachings of Christ referenced in Biblical allusions in literature, music, art, and more.

Reflecting on how Moreau Catholic lives out our Catholic and Holy Cross heritage, a significant perception is the tangible feeling of community on our campus. The strength of that message is one of acceptance, support, compassion and love, which is felt and shared by our students, parents, faculty and staff and alumni.

Criterion 2: The school recognizes its responsibility to the Diocese and local parishes to deepen the religious participation and commitment of those in the school.

Moreau Catholic High School is active in partnering with local Diocesan schools and parishes. At a Diocesan level, members of the school community participate on several standing committees and groups including the Diocesan Staff Development Committee, working groups for Diocesan Principals, Admissions Directors, and Assistant Principals of Instruction. Members from Moreau Catholic are active board members of the Lillian Black Arts Council which is the board that oversees standards-based arts education in the Diocese. We participate in the Diocesan Special Needs Board, comprised of representatives from high school, elementary, and the Oakland Diocese school administrative offices. The purpose of these groups is to collaborate and share best practices among schools. In addition, Moreau Catholic weaves in the yearly themes for Catholic Schools Week. Members of the wider Diocesan and support school community have an open invitation to celebrate with us.

For fifteen years, Moreau Catholic has provided an ongoing partnership with our local Catholic support schools in the area of academic growth by providing a yearly articulation meeting. This past year, in order to address the growing need for ongoing learning, the meeting was a chance for educators to come together and learn about best practices to support all learners in 21st Century Skills. This type of emphasis on continuing K-12 Catholic education is a vital area of support and communication between Moreau Catholic and our Catholic schools. We also host an annual Parish Leadership Recognition Dinner to celebrate our ongoing partnership with our Diocesan schools and parishes.

We also partner with local schools and parishes supporting their activities and events. Moreau Catholic actively contributes to local parish festivals and fundraisers, seeking to link support school students with the Moreau Catholic community. The band and orchestra program at Moreau Catholic provides opportunities for collaboration and outreach at the parish school level. They perform at parish festivals, assemblies, and educational programs at our K-8 support schools, host music workshops, as well as provide a spring concert for all interested elementary schools. The choir program is involved in similar outreach as are the dance and theatre programs. Our students also help to facilitate retreats and lead prayer services at their local parish elementary schools.

Through summer sports camps and support school performing arts presentations, we strive to build strong bonds with our local parishes and communities. Mariner parents and community members serve as liaisons and resource agents with their parishes through our Parent Ambassador Program. In addition, Moreau Catholic offers the Mariner Leadership Awards, fifteen $1500 scholarships awarded yearly to Catholic students from our Catholic elementary schools in the Diocese (see appendix).

Moreau Catholic's Christian Community Service program serves as one of the largest links between members of the Moreau Catholic community and local support schools and parishes. Students, throughout high school, return to their Catholic elementary schools and parishes to serve as tutors for younger students, counselors at retreats/camps, and in other capacities. We also have a large number of students who coach in the local CYO leagues. Above all else, Moreau Catholic High School prides itself on actively responding to the diverse needs of the support school community.

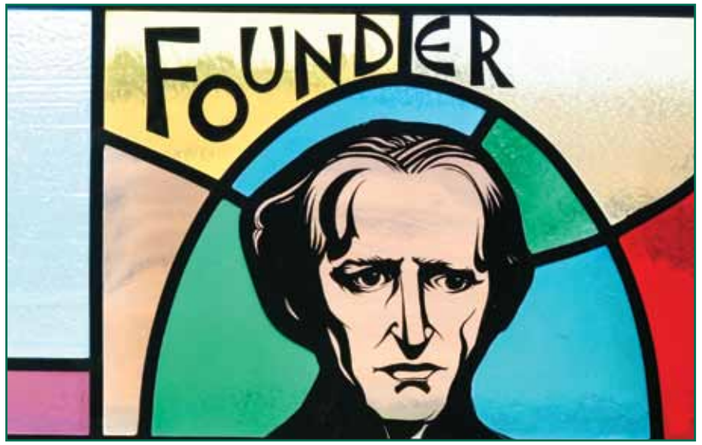
Our surveys revealed that although our school is committed to an ongoing partnership with our local Diocesan parishes, a large portion of the population has *No Access to Observe*, or is unaware of the extent to which the school is involved with the local Diocesan community. In the student survey, 45% indicated that they are involved in faith formation programs at their church. 66% of students stated that the school *Always/Usually* helps to deepen that commitment with local parishes, where as only 55% of parents and 51% faculty and staff indicated as such.

Criterion 3: The school has visible affiliation and engagement with its Holy Cross heritage woven throughout the life of the school.

Moreau Catholic is proud of its Holy Cross heritage, and over the years has found more opportunities to engage all community members in developing a greater awareness of our Holy Cross identity. Potential students learn about the legacy of Blessed Basil Moreau and the charism of a Holy Cross education through the outreach of our Office of Admissions. Our recent survey data gathered from students, faculty and staff and community members showed that Moreau Catholic exceeds expectations in the area of Holy Cross heritage and engagement - 81% of students, 93% of faculty and 86% of community members felt that Moreau Catholic *Always/Usually* meets this criterion.

As a student begins their education here at Moreau Catholic, we start with Frosh Orientation. Led by trained junior and senior Link Leaders, freshmen spend a day in small groups, learning about the Holy Cross symbolism around the campus. Each Link Leader is assigned approximately 10 students and throughout the year they support their designated freshmen. Regular check-ins and organized Link Crew activities reflect our Holy Cross goal of family and working in partnership towards a common goal of personal and community success. One of the first units in the ninth grade Theology class invites students to learn about Blessed Basil Moreau and the Holy Cross charism. Daily prayer invokes the name of Blessed Basil Moreau for his intercession. Students have visual reminders of the

Examples of Message



Images of Blessed Basil Moreau can be found throughout the entire campus. This stained glass window hangs in our student chapel.

"I think the teachers here are really helpful and are always willing to mentor a student. I think that is one of the best things about Moreau, because not many students are ever turned away by their teachers. The faculty here really cares..."
- student

Our student newspaper, *The Explorer*, is another vehicle for communicating our school's mission and message to the entire school community.

"Father Moreau is present in the life of the school through the collective vision which we share."
- educator

A statue of Mary watching over a memorial for those Mariners who have passed away.

"The Holy Cross traditions are shared and embraced at the school from the time of registration to the time of graduation. Each student and family member is encouraged to participate and learn the ways of Holy Cross."
- community member

Message

school's Holy Cross legacy from symbols in the school's common areas, to classrooms, to even our athletic jerseys. As part of the school's redesign, the school's coat of arms in the lobby houses within, an artifact of Blessed Moreau bestowed to the school in Le Mans, France.

The co-curricular life of the school is centered on the four Holy Cross themes, which provide the foundation for many of our school activities. Student leaders from many groups on campus, such as Link Crew, Campus Ministry, Student Ambassadors, student government and athletics, incorporate the Holy Cross themes in varied activities such as Frosh Orientation, Spirit Week, Father Moreau Day, shadowing prospective students, and retreats. The Holy Cross theme of the year is woven into the fabric of the school. Our curriculum maps help to demonstrate that faculty, across all departments, integrate the Holy Cross theme into discussions, assignments and student reflections. One student, in reflecting on what the theme of Educating Hearts and Minds means to them stated, "I think educating hearts and minds is a strong and powerful theme which ties all the themes together as one. When you educate young minds, you teach them to build respect for others as well as themselves." Students are able to clearly articulate the ways in which these theme are lived out in their everyday lives.

Moreau Catholic's integration of our Holy Cross identity also extends into our visual and performing arts. For example, artwork highlighting Holy Cross has been created by art teachers and students and is displayed throughout school buildings.

Our new faculty and staff spend time learning about the central role of Blessed Basil Moreau and the Congregation of Holy Cross in shaping our mission and philosophy. In partnership with our leadership team, new faculty and staff watch the video, "The Legacy of Hope" and read excerpts from Becoming Part of the Story: The Legacy of Holy Cross Educators, where they review the four central themes of a Holy Cross education. All new faculty also spend time reviewing Christian Education and the connections with our work with all students in the classroom. The ways in which faculty are innovative, adaptable, flexible, supportive of students, and the inclusion of differentiation to meet the individual learning needs of all students, points towards the commitment by faculty to live out the teachings of Blessed Basil Moreau and the overall mission of the school. This can also be seen in the willingness of our educators to constantly examine our practice, to best meet the current needs of our student population.

Throughout their time at Moreau Catholic, both students and faculty are offered the opportunities to participate in the annual summer Holy Cross Immersion & Leadership Convention and the Holy Cross Institute. The local Moreau Catholic chapter of Holy Cross Associates has become the model for other schools to emulate.

Perhaps the best evidence of how Holy Cross is intricately woven into the Moreau community is through the behavior of the students in their treatment of one another. Students treat their classmates with dignity and respect, and at all times, look to create deep and meaningful relationships with their peers. Similarly, our faculty and staff model the Holy Cross charism through their relationships with one another, and interactions with students. Being a Mariner is about being a family.

Examples of Community

The seniors on Varsity Football honored faculty and staff who had an impact on their four years. Bernie Puccini was selected by James Capurro.

"Our son and the children of our close friends here at Moreau have always had wonderful communication with the teachers and staff at Moreau."
- parent

Mariner students during Culture Week.

"By coming here I was given a great opportunity to develop myself, not only as a student but a great many of the teachers here have inspired my ideals and beliefs for the better."
- student

Students featured above are 9th graders and Link Leaders at our 2009 Frosh Orientation.

"One of the great things about Moreau would have to be the Link Crew and our Student Ambassador Program, which clearly portrays these Holy Cross characteristics."
- student

Community

Pillar Two: Community

Moreau Catholic High School is committed to building a safe, just and joyful community that fosters close relationships among all its members. Moreau Catholic values inclusivity, diversity and respect for the individual and the gifts they are called to share.

To Teach As Jesus Did: The goal is to make Catholic schools true communities of faith...within such communities teachers and pupils experience together what it means to have a prayer life, personal responsibility and freedom reflective of Gospel values... Building and living community must be prime, explicit goals of the contemporary Catholic School.

Holy Cross, "Becoming Part of the Story:" Visit any Holy Cross school and students are likely to tell you, "It feels like a family." That feeling is part of our legacy. In unifying brothers, priests and sisters, Father Moreau modeled the congregation on the Holy Family. And we sustain this family spirit in our school by prayer, playing and celebrating together. Ultimately, this spirit serves to leverage our collective talents and passion for justice and transform the world.

WCEA Factors: Indicator 5 – The school maintains an active partnership with parents whose fundamental concern is the spiritual and academic education of their children.

Criterion 1: The school values and develops personal, caring relationship throughout the entire school community.

Moreau Catholic is truly a family. In the hiring process, educators must articulate their ability to follow and support the school's Mission statement. As a lay community, we are constantly called to follow the values of Holy Cross. Overwhelmingly, students feel that the school values and develops personal, caring relationships throughout the entire school community with 85% responding *Always/Usually* in the school's survey results. Faculty, staff, and community also indicated the school *Always/Usually* works to cultivate these relationships. Further, 87% of students *Always/Usually* feel that their teachers demonstrate a spirit of family, respect, community, and integrity.

From Bernie Puccini, who has been part of the Moreau Catholic community for over 40 years, to the newest hires, there is a spirit of family and togetherness that permeates throughout the entire school. Bernie, along with many other members of the Moreau Catholic community, contributes to the Sunshine Club which sends cards, flowers and prayers to our current families, faculty and staff, and alumni, for every occasion. The club is funded by voluntary donations by the faculty and staff of the school and is an integral part of fostering the school's feelings of community.

Parents of new students have commented that they felt part of the school from the very beginning of the admissions process. Our Open House is welcoming, using faculty and staff, students, coaches and parents to help embrace all community members. During placement tests, Back to School Night, and new student registration, we have Link Leaders and Student Ambassadors placed throughout the school to direct and welcome visitors to our school. Our Spring Welcome Night is an opportunity for our newest Mariners to build connections with the larger Mariner family, and leave with a picture of their classmates. The frosh and transfer students also have a fun-filled orientation day prior to the beginning of school which includes a tour, barbecue lunch and a run through of their class schedule. Link Leaders mentor their frosh throughout the school year to insure that all incoming students develop connections with older students. During the school year, the Academic Support Center uses National Honors Society student tutors to provide ongoing support for students needing additional tutoring. Our class schedule was developed to provide students the opportunity to enjoy social, spiritual and academic activities during a student choice period called collaboration. The development of collaboration, through the input from all constituents of the school, has also added to increasing student achievement and school community.

Starting in the fall of 2006, we began a program to better support those students with learning differences called Saints and Scholars. Our Saints and Scholars program, which has grown to now include 34 students, also provides a day-long retreat for new and returning students. The purpose of this retreat, which takes place in the fall, is to provide all students with the skills to advocate for themselves, and fully utilize the plethora of support options provided at Moreau Catholic.

Moreau Catholic is proud of having many active parent organizations to support the school: Parent Ambassadors, Band Parents, Environmental Stewardship, Athletic Boosters, Parent Prayer Group, and the Parent Club. One of the most active parent groups on campus is the Athletic Booster Club. With over 350 families as part of the club, the Boosters insure that all athletic teams have support both financially and personally. The Boosters run the snack bar at football, volleyball, basketball, track and baseball games and also are charged with coordinating the sale of Mariner wear clothing. The annual Crab Feed, our largest fundraising event, serves over 700 guests with over 200 volunteers. Although it serves as an opportunity to raise monies for the entire athletic program, it is also a community event that brings back alumni, alumni parents, and community members. Parents and alumni are also present on the Board of Trustees, and on the standing board committees: Mission Integration Committee,

Examples of Community

Coaches are an integral part of the Mariner community. Coach Ceasar Brown, head Varsity Baseball coach for nine years, gives advice to this player during the Alumni Baseball game.

"I really love how MCHS makes it a point to celebrate students' achievements, contributions, and diversity."
- community member

The custodial and maintenance crews work hard to ensure the safety and cleanliness of our campus.

"I feel so lucky to have a clean campus and go to school where people hold doors open for you."
- student

Current and past leadership at Moreau Catholic: Lauren Lek '97, current Principal; Dr. Joe Connell, past President and Principal; Patricia Geister, past Principal; Terry Lee, current President.

"The students always look happy and this shows as I have been a parent at Moreau for the past 8 years. The first time I walked on campus several students approached me and offered me help. Others said 'hi.' This was the first time I knew my kids had to attend this beautiful high school."
- parent

Community

Finance Committee, and Institutional Advancement. We have hosted a Parish Leadership Dinner, each year for the past 15 years, to celebrate our partnership with our local Diocesan schools and parishes.

Wednesday morning liturgies, open to faculty, staff, students and families have been in place for the past 6 years. This weekly Mass provides the opportunity for the entire community to join in prayer and liturgical celebration. Community members are given the chance to offer prayer intentions for any areas of the school community. Our monthly birthday celebrations for faculty and staff members include prayers offered at a Wedenesday morning liturgy followed by a breakfast potluck, organized by one of our faculty members.

Informal prayer spaces are woven throughout our school. For example, faculty make use of a prayer space in many of their classrooms, include daily prayers and meditations, and all sports contests begin with a team prayer. Some teams, such as football, begin their preparation for competition by celebrating Mass.

The Moreau Catholic community works together to assist other people in need. From Hurricane Katrina to the most recent typhoons and tsunami in Samoa and the Philippines, the Moreau Catholic community has responded to support the global community through our mission drives. Campus Ministry similarly sponsors local needs by coordinating Thanksgiving food drives for the Alameda Food Bank, Salvation Army Christmas Toy Drives, and our Advent and Lenten food drives. Many on-campus clubs also take on the responsibility for meeting the needs of various charitable organizations.

This commitment to developing a sense of community extends into our school's discipline policies. Our philosophy of student discipline empowers all students to take responsibility for their actions. From our technology policies, to even our classroom behavioral policies, students are given the tools and skills to help make responsible choices. Within our classrooms, students help to develop the classroom behavioral policies in partnership with faculty members. Students serve on the Discipline Review Committee which examines changes or additions to discipline policies. The school has also sponsored in-services that address individual and cultural differences to allow faculty insight into working with student needs.

Mariner participation in the life of the school through their academic, social and spiritual growth can also be seen in their presence on several standing committees. Student voice is present in the Student Curriculum Committee, which advises Academic Council, and the Assistant Principal of Instruction. Students are also present on the Mission Integration board committee. The school continuously looks for additional opportunities for students to be actively involved in the development of programs, policies and procedures at Moreau Catholic.

Moreau Catholic is committed to finding ways to recognize the variety of student accomplishments and their academic, social and spiritual growth. Student recognition occurs in morning announcements, on MCTV, at our annual Evening of Excellence, at our schoolwide Academic Assembly, at the class culminating retreat services, by recognizing students of the month, at athletic banquets and more. Recognition also occurs in our publications such as the On Course, our monthly school newsletter, and the Vector, our quarterly magazine.

One of our school's most exciting annual traditions is Spirit Week. Over the years, Spirit Week has shifted from solely a class competition, aimed at winning even at the expense of other classes, to an opportunity to come together as a community in celebration of our unique gifts of talents. Students have creatively woven the inclusion of the four Holy Cross themes into the Spirit Week skits, decorations and dances. This is yet another example to the testament of our Holy Cross heritage in helping us develop as a community of faith.

With the integration of the one-to-one laptop program in the fall of 2007, we also saw opportunities for the faculty and staff to come together and learn from one another. Through the first year of adoption, faculty and staff participated in a "Give-One, Get-One" activity, which allowed faculty to teach one another skills and tools to best meet the needs of all learners.

This past school year, as a way to bring together all community members in strengthening their technology skills, the library staff instituted the "23 Things" schoolwide professional learning opportunity. As a community of learners, over 80% of the faculty and staff came together over a nine week period, to share their learning and experiences with twenty-three Web 2.0 tools. "23 Things," was an example of how our faculty and staff are not only teaching our Expected Schoolwide Learning Results, but are living them.

Criterion 2: The school teaches and encourages a sense of respect and hospitality within its community, which helps create a welcoming, safe and caring environment.

Over the years, Moreau Catholic has taken great pride in our welcoming and hospitable community. It is a quintessential part of our legacy that has been passed down from the Brothers, our administration, faculty, alumni and students. Often times, faculty and alumni will share with community members that there is a tangible feeling of family and community that is in the halls, in the walls, in the very fabric of our school. This authentic commitment of respect is extended to all who enter Moreau Catholic High School.

One of the key ways that this feeling of community exists at Moreau Catholic, is through the modeling of our faculty and staff and their interactions with students. Many of our faculty help to foster this safe and caring environment through the day-to-day, informal and sometimes unrecognizable, embedded behaviors. These core behaviors reflect mutual respect, appreciation for, and concern of others. In a more formal way, many faculty send thank you notes to their students, contact them during difficult times, and acknowledge them as students of the month. Survey results show that Moreau Catholic excels in this area with 86% of students, 97% of community and faculty and staff attesting to our school's commitment to *Always/Usually* fostering a community atmosphere. Students comments demonstrate that they feel that Mariner teachers care about them as individuals.

As part of our partnership with the Oakland Diocese, we are committed to providing ongoing training and instruction for all faculty, staff, coaches, and volunteers to ensure appropriate relationships exist between students and adults. All employees and volunteers are required to complete a two hour online course called, "Shield the Vulnerable" which educates adults regarding proper interactions and procedures when abuse is suspected. School supervisors are also responsible for completing an online course on harassment and discipline in the workplace. The counselors

Examples of Community

2009 Mariner Varsity Football players celebrating their first win of the season.

"My son struggled with some of the curriculum. His greatest supporter was his football coach. We were VERY impressed by his support and the extra steps he took to assist my son academically."
- parent

Mariner parents helping out at our annual Crab Feed fundraiser.

"My first experience with MCHS was not as a parent of a student, rather that of a parent that just came to get a feel for the school and I worked the Crab Feed with no affiliation to the school. I was impressed with the students, their respect and the feeling of being welcomed to the school was overwhelming. I was then just wanting to become a part of this family and have my children learn these same values."
- parent

Mariner Band students with Mr. Ted Newton.

"Many teachers are very welcoming and gain a friendship with their students."
- student

Community

also provide frequent trainings regarding procedures to follow as mandated reporters of child abuse.

Alumni are frequent visitors to campus, and maintain a strong connection and friendship with many of the faculty and staff. Peter Peabody (35 years strong) has over 700 alumni he keeps in touch with on Facebook. Many of the faculty and staff are invited to current students' and alumnus' cotillions, quincineras, graduations, weddings, and much more. This strong sense of community is present among all constituents. The Board of Trustees also maintains an ongoing relationship with faculty, staff and students with their presence on the school campus, at schoolwide events, at the end of the year faculty and staff luncheon, and at graduation. Visitors, hosted by Apple, frequent our campus because of our innovative teaching practices and laptop program. Every year, we host local community members to learn more about Moreau Catholic's liturgies, campus ministry, retreat, academic, and co-curricular programs.

Recognizing the school's setting, Moreau Catholic emphasizes the safety and security of its campus. In an effort to provide ongoing supervision of our students, we have extended the hours of our campus supervisors and added a third campus supervisor to our staff. Our library changed their hours to allow students to stay inside the building and work until 5:30 pm in a safe and secure location. More opportunities are now provided for our students and parents to meet our designated School Resource Officer at school events, parent meetings, and class meetings. We continue to seek ways and means to address student safety on campus.

Moreau Catholic's commitment to maintaining a safe environment also extends to the physical maintenance of our school. One has only to walk the campus to observe how clean and attractive our school is. The entire Mariner community takes pride in the appearance of our campus and maintaining a culture and atmosphere of learning. From picking up trash around the campus to helping maintain their classroom space, students take responsibility for the appearance of their campus.

There is also an ongoing review of all safety procedures and the school's response during emergencies by the administration. When faced with an actual emergency, students, teachers, and staff respond effectively. This is, in part, not only due to our commitment to reviewing our procedures and providing opportunity for practice, but also to our communities' sense of mutual respect and trust. Students follow directions and support the leadership of our school. Faculty, staff, administration and campus supervisors are diligent in their care for our students. Part of our ongoing review of all safety procedures led to a switch in communication tools from cell phones to walkie-talkies to ensure access during times of emergency.

Criterion 3: Educators, with the support of the school's orientation, mentoring and ongoing formation programs, embrace and demonstrate the school's Mission.

The faculty and staff of Moreau Catholic High School see themselves and their actions as reflecting the school's Mission and philosophy. Our surveys provide strong evidence that all who work here at Moreau Catholic are focused on educating the hearts and minds of our students. 83% of our students indicated in our survey that the school's educators are *Always/Usually* supportive of the Mission of the school. This is further validated by the survey responses of both faculty, staff, and community members where, overwhelmingly, 85% of respondents indicated that we embrace the three-pronged Mission of the school. Student's work also attest to a fluency and understanding of the Holy Cross themes. This critical component is integrated within our college-preparatory curriculum and the school's athletic and other co-curricular programs.

At Moreau Catholic, there exists a strong sense of support from the school community for students from teachers, coaches, counselors, administrators, or staff. Whether it be buying books, paying tuition, covering retreats, Mariner community members willingly support the needs of students. Faculty have responded favorably to the new teacher mentoring program, echoing that same sense of support as they begin their journey as Holy Cross educators. Parents feel this support, from the way the school communicates important issues, to the welcoming and warmth they feel when visiting campus. The process of educating hearts and minds is one embraced by all stakeholders.

Through our Academic Council, Student Curriculum Committee and department meetings, our school works to address the evolving needs of our students. Through curriculum mapping, progress reports, PowerSchool data, and ongoing studies, we seek to identify areas of growth within each department, as well as the school as a whole. The Counseling department meets with each department chair to review course offerings, descriptions, and exchange information on the issues that arose in the scheduling process from the previous year. The Assistant Principal of Instruction endeavors to meet with each department to discuss pertinent issues that relate to student achievement and critical thinking. Advanced Placement teachers meet collectively each year to review AP results and set goals for the current year. The Saints and Scholars coordinator meets with teachers to review the recommended accommodations for identified students and provide instructional and emotional resources for both teachers, parents, and students. Our Professional Development Committee was developed to address faculty and administrative suggestions for on-going development of teaching practices.

Our faculty and staff feel connected to each other as professional colleagues and friends. School celebrations of birthdays, holidays, and important milestones give staff a sense of belonging and community. During times of difficulty and stress, the community rallies around and helps comfort those in need with prayers, support and a helping hand. Parents report being happy with the choice of Moreau Catholic for their children, citing the strong academic programs, warm community, safe environment, and distinct and varied co-curricular programs. The Link Crew Orientation program and ongoing support for frosh was cited several times as a key program that supports the school's Mission and fosters the sense of welcoming and community witnessed by our families. The Saints and Scholars program was cited consistently as a positive force in supporting the school's Mission by providing a Catholic education to students with learning differences. Other academic support opportunities, including time spent by teachers outside of the normal class assisting students during collaboration and after school, were also viewed as positive and directed towards helping all students succeed. Athletic participation by students, and support by parents, alumni, and faculty and staff, are viewed as another strong example of total support, community involvement, and integral to educating hearts and minds. Moreau Catholic is a welcoming, caring, diverse and engaged school community.

Examples of Service

Through the laptop program, and a focus on student-centered learning, our faculty have been able to better meet the diverse learning needs of all students.

"Many teachers are very open with their opinions but don't pressure students to have those views but to develop their own and be comfortable enough to share their views of the world like they do."
- student

Campus Ministry students during the Holy Cross Immersion program, summer 2009.

"In Catholic Social Teaching class we participated in a ritual based on the Life and Death. During the ritual I remembered the victims of violence and their surviving families. I wanted to honor the families who favored forgiveness other than capital punishment. I was inspired by these great acts of forgiveness and thought that God would be proud of me if I embraced the same amount of compassion in my life."
- student

Associated Student Body for 2009-2010 celebrate together at our Mariner fundraiser community BBQ.

" I feel like I go to a regular school just with prayer, crucifixes, and Theology class."
- student

Service

Pillar Three: Service

As a Holy Cross school, Moreau Catholic is committed to service of the "poor."

To Teach As Jesus Did: The Catholic school has the opportunity and obligation to be unique, contemporary and oriented to Christian Service: unique because it is distinguished by the threefold purpose and operation which foster the integration of religion and the rest of learning and living; contemporary because it enables students to address with Christian insight the multiple problems which face individuals and society; oriented to Christian service because it helps students acquire skills, virtues, and habits of heart and mind required for effective service to others.

Holy Cross, Constitution #2: Christ was anointed to bring good news to the poor, release for prisoners, sight to the blind, restoration for every broken victim. Our efforts, which are His, reach out to the afflicted and in a preferential way to the poor and the oppressed.

WCEA Factors: Indicator 6 – The school helps students develop a service-oriented outreach to the Church and civic community after the example of Jesus who said, "I have given you an example so that you may copy what I have done to you." (John 13:15)

Criterion 1: The school recognizes the diversity of the school community.

Moreau Catholic High School has always been proud of its diversity. Since its founding, the school's student body has largely reflected the local community that it serves. In all aspects of the school, respect is deeply ingrained for our diversity of students, faculty, and staff. Diversity at Moreau Catholic is not only evident in the ethnic make-up of the school community, but in its diversity of faith, learning needs, life experience and socioeconomic status. At our parent/community open forum, parents noted that our students "serve" each other. They further noted a plethora of examples of how students "really look out for each other" and that there is a strong sense of respect for one other. What was especially gratifying to hear was parent acknowledgment of how staff are enthusiastic about their vocation as educators - they are friendly and happy to be here. The survey from faculty and staff, community, and students predominantly cited that Moreau Catholic *Always/Usually* meets this criterion: 84% of students, 91% of community members and 87% of faculty.

In the day-to-day running of the school, respect for the diversity of the Moreau Catholic community is evident. The admissions policies of Moreau Catholic welcome all students regardless of their ability to pay. The Board of Trustees are committed to our financial assistance program to allow a diverse socioeconomic population the opportunity to receive a Holy Cross education. The Saints and Scholars program was instituted to support and meet the needs of students with learning differences. The support offered by the Saints and Scholars program has led to a growing awareness of differentiated learning styles addressed by teachers through increasing use of technology and different modalities of instruction.

Throughout the school's curriculum, courses, texts and student work reflect a comprehensive educational plan that incorporates justice and peace themes and issues and promote social responsibility. English 10 students , for example, complete a problem based learning project dealing with issues such as poverty, racism, sexism, and immigration. Sophomores read the novel, The Bean Trees and then conduct interviews, research, and propose a possible solution to these issues by creating iMovies to document and share their findings. Themes of cultural awareness are also emphasized within our Modern Language department celebrating cultural holidays including Dia de los Muertos and Cinco de Mayo.

The school also sponsors a myriad of activities that celebrate the rich culture and diversity of our students and community. The school hosts Culture Week which culminates with a culture fest rally where multiple ethnic clubs perform. The rally focuses on dance and song, and includes, among others, Polynesian dance, Portuguese dance, and Step. An Interfaith service in March focuses on students of religions other than Catholic/Christian. In addition, last year a food contest was coordinated by one of our English teachers where cultural foods were showcased and judged by a panel.

Our activities program boasts over 30 different clubs that provide opportunities for students to participate in diverse interests:

- Nuestra Gente coordinates activities/decorations related to Dia de los Muertos and Cinco de Mayo.
- Filipino Club organizes activities/decorations related to the Philippine's Independence Day.
- Irish Club organizes activities/decorations related to St. Patrick's Day.
- Earthwise Club organizes activities/eco-fairs related to Earthweek.

Examples of Service

Mariner faculty, Petar Zegura, and junior Anika Adeni participating in the '09 Philippine Summer Immersion program.

" I would definitely recommend this trip to students. I think that everyone should be exposed to such a loving community. More students need to become aware of what the needs are in other countries and what they can do to help. This trip was so fantastic in that it allowed us to give a couple deserving families good homes and in return we learned about being grateful for what we have and a seed was planted within us to make a change." - student

Mariner students bringing money in to support the victims of the Philippine tsunami.

"The school is very diverse and it is what makes Moreau unique. The diversity really works well and allows us to gain friendships with many different people."
- student

Students present monies raised for the Samoa Mission Drive.

"The theme that I think is most important is bringing hope. Without hope we pretty much cannot do anything. Hope is like a drive we have to keep believing in ourselves, others and our own dreams. Having hope is a great thing but bringing hope is a miracle. When you bring hope to people its like they open their eyes for the first time."
- student

Service

- The Diversity in Action Club identifies and addresses issues of prejudice, stereotypes and discrimination based on sexual orientation, sexuality or gender.

Diverse cultural aspects are also involved in every Mass including liturgical music, offertory procession, and signs and symbols. We celebrate religious diversity in our Major Religions of the World classes, as well, which includes an activity component.

Brian Copeland, an alumnus of MCHS, wrote the book, Not a Genuine Black Man, about his experience of growing up in San Leandro; Moreau Catholic required it for summer reading and we hosted him, on-campus, for a presentation of his award winning one-man show with the same title.

Faculty also note and recognize that some students feel disconnected and unsupported because of their sexual orientation, gender, race, or socioeconomic status. Our Counseling department works with small groups of students to offer ongoing support regarding these issues such as GLQBT and stress. Student clubs such as Diversity in Action or the African American Alliance also provide a source of support. In our schoolwide discussions regarding this Pillar, some faculty felt that future focused attention on these issues is important for the overall health and well being of all students.

Moreau Catholic also hosts an exchange program with Funabashi Municipal High School and have been instrumental in the city relationship between Hayward and the city of Funabashi. Approximately 6 to 10 students from each high school spend up to two weeks with their host families. While there, the students attend class and participate in each respective school's activities. For over seven years, a Moreau Catholic teacher, Audrey Schroeder, has also been coordinating our exchange program with students from Notre Dame des Missions in Charenton, France. Father Tito hosts our Philippine Summer Immersion program where our students build houses for the poor. Moreau Catholic also continues to sponsor the Holy Cross Leadership Conference and the summer Holy Cross Immersion program for our students. This program also addresses social justice issues under Criterion 3.

In looking specifically at our co-curricular programs, our sports teams serve the needs of our students and fosters a sense of teamwork and support among the athletes. Over 75% of our student body participates in our athletic program.

Link Crew conducts two academic seminars focusing on understanding and accepting everyone. Each freshman is led through an interactive lesson (experiential learning) and then debrief this lesson with a powerful discussion. Link Crew leaders are trained in how to respect each student especially in regard to their cultural background. At our community open forum, parents gave a strong voice of approval for the Link Crew program and it was identified as a tremendous asset for the entire school community.

Our schoolwide surveys also drew attention to the importance of the school's diverse ethnic community. Our students talk to their parents about their friends without a sense of ethnic bias or barrier but instead with a natural and welcoming point of view. One parent noted we are a real melting pot and that we have an atmosphere that is accepting of racial and religious diversity.

Criterion 2: The school is accessible and gives special attention to students most in need academically, socially and economically.

Moreau Catholic is committed to providing all students the opportunity to attend a college-preparatory school in the Holy Cross tradition. This mission and philosophy is seen throughout our policies and procedures, and is the lens through which we make all school decisions. In the area of admissions, Moreau Catholic promotes our programs to all students regardless of socioeconomic level, race or religion. In recent years, more advertising has been done in the Hayward and San Leandro area to attract more students from our local community. Moreau Catholic has also branched out to the KIPP charter schools of Oakland and San Lorenzo which have traditionally served underprivileged students.

In the admissions process, the committee only looks at applicants' academic merit, behavior, and commitment to the mission of the school. No information about students' financial background is revealed. Information about financial aid is advertised in our admissions materials and promotional materials. Tuition assistance is a key component in the "service" to our community members, especially in these hard economic times with so many parents losing their jobs.

This year the school distributed more than $820,000 in tuition assistance to 31% of our student body, representing an increase of more than $200,000 over the 2008-2009 school year. Please see the appendix for additional information and statistics. Beneficiaries of our tuition assistance program express thanks for the support their family has received. Through our Institutional Advancement staff, our school is making a concerted effort to annually increase our tuition assistance funds, and attract more donors to contribute to our school's endowment. Again, the survey responses from faculty and staff, community, and students echoed those sentiments with the majority of respondents indicating that Moreau Catholic "*Usually*" is accessible to the poor, socially marginalized, and academically underprivileged. The Board of Trustees is committed to annually reviewing the extent to which Moreau Catholic services our local community.

Moreau Catholic's Saints and Scholars program also attracts students with diverse learning styles and disabilities. Students with documented learning disabilities are supported as learners. As a result of this program, a stronger, growing awareness of student learning has been fostered amongst all community members. The coordinator is a member of our Professional Development Committee and also a member of the Oakland Diocese Special Needs Committee. By utilizing various technologies and group projects, students can show their achievement in all academic disciplines at Moreau Catholic.

Examples of Service

Mariner student, Tyler Galloway, takes a moment out from painting to play with students from the village during the Philippine Summer Immersion program.

"Service learning has taught me to take responsibility for the world around me. With the knowledge of service learning, I am able to focus on the deeper meaning of life and service within my community. Moreau encourages me to follow through with service learning projects and so that I am able to learn through my own experience."
- student

Mariner students working together in preparation for their upcoming Spirit Week.

"We are very impressed with the Saints and Scholars program even though our own student does not need it. We want him to understand that there are a variety of learning styles in the world."
- parent

Mariner students helping one another succeed.

"Moreau is a very difficult school, to say the least. This is because you are held accountable for your work at all times, no matter what. Which is good."
- student

Service

An on-going area of attention is our ability to attract and retain students in a Catholic, college-preparatory atmosphere. Discussions take place at various levels of the school regarding our college-preparatory curriculum and how that impacts our students. Through ongoing curriculum reviews, the school identifies opportunities for growth and adaptation to better meet the ever-changing needs of our 21st century learners. A number of procedures are in place to recognize and address students who are in academic trouble and need. Examples of support include our Link Crew program, the Counseling program, Academic Support Center, and our school information and records program, PowerSchool. We also have both academic and athletic probationary policies to monitor students academic success. In the admissions process, students identified with study skill deficiencies are placed in a year-long course to provide ongoing support. The study skills instructor works closely with each student in developing effective study and organizational skills.

In reviewing the surveys from all constituent groups, this was noted as one of the lowest criterion. 69% of students noted that Moreau Catholic meets this criterion *Always/Usually*, where as 22% of students surveyed said that this only happens *Sometimes*. There was another group of 4% who cited that they had *No Access to Observe* this. Similarly, only 58% of community members cited that Moreau Catholic *Always/Usually* meets this criterion, with 22% citing *Sometimes* and 16% having *No Access to Observe.* Only 56% of the faculty and staff stated that Moreau Catholic *Aways/Usually* meets this criterion, and 37% cited *Sometimes*. This particular area has been identified as a strategic plan goal for the Institutional Advancement staff to increase tuition assistance dollars, in order to meet the growing needs of all Mariner students.

Criterion 3: The school has a comprehensive social justice program.

The Campus Ministry program at Moreau Catholic High School strives to foster authentic experiences of faith formation with the students, faculty, staff, and administration. We define our program as the "Church on Campus" based on the principles of Jesus as found in the Gospels. The goals of Campus Ministry are: (1) Forming our Faith Community, (2) Appropriating the Faith, (3) Forming a Christian Conscience, (4) Educating for Justice, (5) Facilitating Personal Development, and (6) Developing Leaders for the Future.

In 2002-2003, the Theology department and Campus Ministry programs collaborated to change the Christian/Community Service program to better meet the needs of all students. MCHS moved from a "total number of community service hours" to themes of "community service." Students focus on a unique service theme each year. The goal is to challenge students to focus on their local communities by volunteering in response to the needs which are present there. Students volunteer to work with non-profit agencies. At the end of their four years of volunteering, each student will have had the opportunity to experience a variety of services. Students actively volunteer and complete community service. They develop an understanding and appreciation of their own lives and learn the value of service in the lives of those in need. The theme for the community service requirement in the freshman year is "Environment and Ecology." With an eye towards "service learning," students may combine their English "I-search" project with this theme (see below for more details on frosh English I-Search project). The theme for the community service requirement in the sophomore year is "In Solidarity with the Poor." This is linked to our sophomore immersion experience at St. Anthony's in San Francisco's Tenderloin district. The theme for community service in the junior year is based on a "core" theme as selected by the Director of Christian Community Service. Seniors can serve in any non-profit agency or organization locally, nationally or internationally in order to complete their 80 hour requirement. At our annual schoolwide Academic Assembly, we recognize students who have volunteered over 200 hours of service in their local community. We also invite the principal from one of our local Catholic support schools to recognize one of their alums who has given back an exceptional amount of time in service to their school.

We have made a major dedication of time and personnel to our retreat program by reducing the number of classes the retreat coordinator teaches. All frosh and sophomore students are provided the opportunity to attend a retreat with their Theology classes. In order to provide a consistent, communal, spiritual experience for all ninth and tenth graders, students are required to attend these retreats, which occur during the regular school day. In keeping with the Catholic Church's strong emphasis on social justice, all tenth graders spend their retreat day assisting with the St. Anthony Foundation in San Francisco. Feeding the homeless at St. Anthony's, going to housebound, and assisting elderly in the Tenderloin area of San Francisco are major components of the sophomore retreat experience.

Optional overnight retreats are offered throughout the year for juniors to attend and enhance their spiritual development. In 2008, we implemented Kairos, a student-directed retreat offered to our seniors. Kairos, or God's time, is an intensive three-day retreat for seniors. Led by trained adult and student leaders, this is the final, culminating senior spiritual event that gives twelfth graders a deeply enriching, soul searching and interactive experience.

Through the Holy Cross Immersion program, our students experience service work and community while participating in a Christian community with students from four other Holy Cross High Schools in the South-West Province. This is an opportunity that includes learning about the common values experienced by students in Holy Cross High Schools. By living and working in poor communities, they learn to appreciate the people, their history and culture. Faith is put into practice by serving others.

As quoted in our student handbook description: "Immersions are life-altering experiences that teach our students what it truly means to live faithfully and act justly. By going on immersions, students stretch beyond

Examples of Service

Moreau Catholic is proud to be the only high school to offer a UC approved Honors Dance class.

"I think that the theme "Building Respect" is the most crucial to a student's education because having respect for yourself, for others, and for God is one of the most important things we can do as Catholics and as moral people..."
- student

Mariner students at the 2009 Philippine Summer Immersion program.

"Holy Cross is a place where even if I am not Christian, I am accepted as an ideal family member."
- student

Mariner students working collaboratively in one of their visual arts courses.

"Holy Cross is a foundation full of loving people and friends. It helps bring us together no matter what race, religion, or skin color we are. Because frosh are new people to the school and they don't know anybody, learning about Holy Cross is the best thing to do so they all bond together and make new friends."
- student

Service

their "comfort zones" and discover how fulfilling it is to serve those in need. Their firsthand experiences stay with them throughout their lives, and for some, inspires future careers." Fr. Tito, the school's chaplain, has been running the Philippine Summer Immersion program since 2006. Like the other Holy Cross immersions, it gives students a chance to live in another culture while assisting those less fortunate. Fr. Tito has expanded this experience to include parents and siblings thus including the larger community.

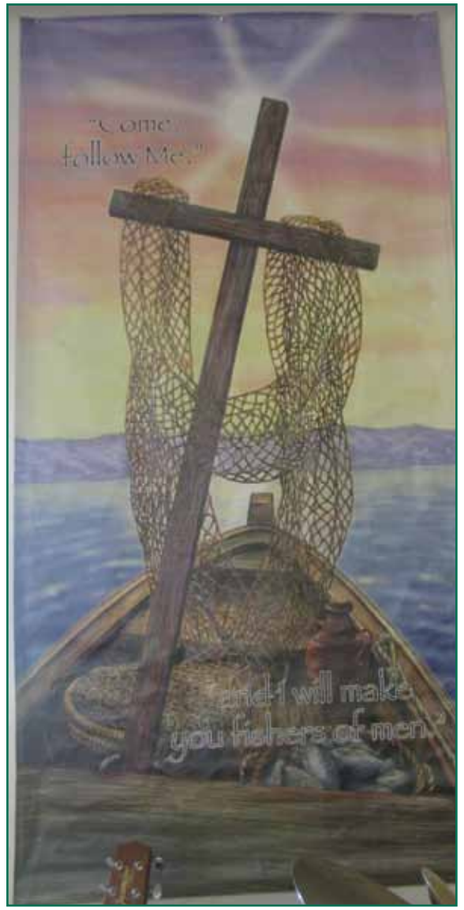
Within the context of the school's curriculum, there are many examples where themes of social justice and responsibility are purposefully integrated. In Catholic Social Teaching, students look at encyclicals and develop raps to highlight the themes of social justice presented in the encyclical and how it can be lived today. They also address domestic and global poverty, environmental stewardship, militarism and the death penalty from many different viewpoints and media. Our Peace and Conflict course studies the process of achieving peace through current conflicts in the Middle East, Africa and at home, while addressing such topics as human rights, genocide and nuclear weapons.

All students in their ninth grade English classes complete a Service Learning I-Search project where they research and volunteer for an organization in their community that is trying to solve a problem or meet a need of the community. All students are required to serve at least two hours with the organization, but many students end up serving more time. Issues in the community include homelessness, hunger, environmental concerns, pet adoption, literacy, etc. All ninth grade students, since the fall of 2005, have participated in this project.

In American Government, students select an issue of interest and research the issue: background history, its causes, impacts, role of interest groups and government. They take their learning directly to the community. A focus on further development of a service learning component, integrated throughout all grade levels and content areas, is an important future direction of our community service program.

Theatre classes often examine social justice and social responsibility through the study and/or production of plays with themes such as those. Plays such as Fiddler on the Roof, Antigone, Our Country's Good, Macbeth, Khamasseen, Les Miserable, The Billy-Club Puppets, Mother Courage and Her Children, and Doctor Faustus, have been performed for both the Moreau Catholic community and for a global community in an international venue. In many cases, artist-audience post-show discussions have also taken place. Each year, advanced theatre students travel to a middle school in Sacramento to serve as adjudicators for the California Educational Theatre Association's annual middle school theatre festival. Those MCHS students selected to participate critique middle school performances and provide educational feedback through leadership and mentoring activities.

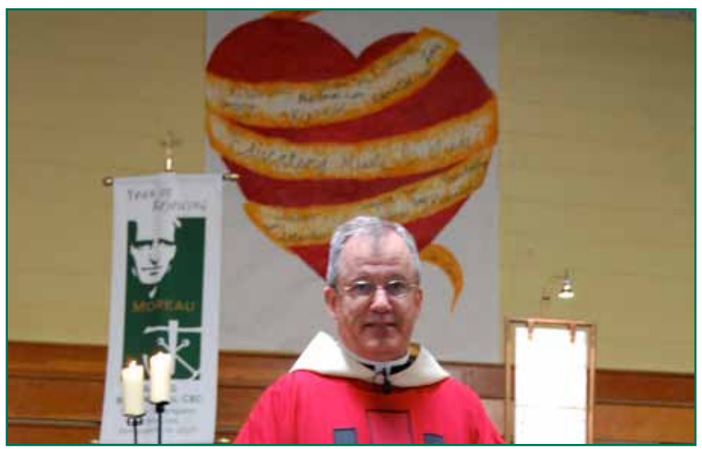
Parent comments complimented the diversity of our student body in religious beliefs and the sensitivity of our teachers and administration to those family's and their belief systems. "It is a welcoming of all faiths and yet it still maintains its strong Catholic character." Overall, survey responses to the school's incorporation of the themes of social justice and responsibility within the curriculum and co-curriculars were reflected as *Always/Usually* by 91% of community members, and *Usually/Sometimes* by students, faculty and staff.



Examples of Prayer

Names of the faithfully departed displayed at our All Soul's Day Mass 2009.

"Moreau Catholic helps families spiritually. I recently lost my father and my entire family was impressed with the true practice of Catholic tradition and identity when they offered a Mass in my father's name."
- community member



Alumni, Father Jeff Keyes, C.PP.S '71, presided at our Opening of School Mass 2009.

"If my parents were to ask me for the meaning of Holy Cross, I would answer and tell them that it is joining together to be a family. Holy Cross schools are all alike and that whatever school you go to you will be welcomed. It is important for the frosh because even though they just entered they have to have the sense of welcoming each other and give others the feeling that they have people who want them and [that they can] fit in."
- student

Mariner students on the frosh retreat.

"I feel that 'Father Moreau Day' is a great way we are informed about Holy Cross tradition. Not only is it fun but it connects us to other Holy Cross schools around the world."
- student

Prayer

Pillar Four: Prayer

Moreau Catholic High School is committed to building a safe, just and joyful community that fosters close relationships among all its members. Moreau Catholic values inclusivity, diversity and respect for the individual and the gifts they are called to share.

To Teach As Jesus Did: The goal is to make Catholic schools true communities of faith...within such communities teachers and pupils experience together what it means to have a prayer life, personal responsibility and freedom reflective of Gospel values... Building and living community must be prime, explicit goals of the contemporary Catholic school.

Holy Cross, "Becoming Part of the Story:" Visit any Holy Cross school and students are likely to tell you, "It feels like a family." That feeling is part of our legacy. In unifying brothers, priests and sisters, Father Moreau modeled the congregation on the Holy Family. We sustain this family spirit in our school by prayer, playing and celebrating together. Ultimately, this spirit serves to leverage our collective talents and passion for justice-and transform the world.

WCEA Factors: Indicator 5 – The school maintains an active partnership with parents whose fundamental concern is the spiritual and academic education of their children.

Criterion 1: The school is committed to teaching the basic beliefs of Catholicism.

Each year, the school focuses on one of the following Holy Cross themes:

- Being Family
- Bringing Hope
- Building Respect
- Educating Hearts & Minds

Each department strives to incorporate creative ways to infuse these themes into the curriculum. This central focus on the year's theme provides a greater understanding of the charism of Holy Cross, as well as helps Moreau Catholic educators focus on how to apply the teachings of the Gospels into our lives by serving others. In addition, the Expected Schoolwide Learning Results (ESLR) are also integrated into each department's curriculum. Specifically, ESLR #1 states, "Within the heritage of Holy Cross, students will maintain a meaningful relationship with God," and serves as a hallmark of a Moreau Catholic education.

The Theology department of Moreau Catholic High School prides itself on offering a variety of courses that introduce, reinforce, and enrich the core doctrines, dogmas, beliefs and practices of the Catholic faith. Frosh Theology, a required year-long course taken in the 9th grade, provides students with the basic tenets of Catholicism. Christology, a required sophomore semester course, is entirely devoted to learning the historical and Biblical Jesus Christ, his life, teachings, works, ministry and the foundations of the Christian faith. In the spring semester, sophomores study Moral Theology, a course that discusses the ethical and moral implications of the Catholic Christian faith. Juniors and seniors are allowed to select a number of upper-division courses that fall under one of the following categories: (1) Scripture (2) Social Justice and (3) Spirituality. Upon graduating from Moreau Catholic, it is required that exiting seniors have completed and passed at least one class from each of the aforementioned upper-division categories.

In addition, the department seeks to integrate universal academic language and instructional strategies used in other departments. For example, the Theology teachers integrate similar learning expectations in alignment with the Social Studies and English department learning results. Department chairs discuss "best practice strategies" during formal and informal meetings with other department chairs, particularly at Academic Council. All members of the Theology department sit on the schoolwide focus groups, which convene at least once or twice a year, to review and revise, where necessary, the philosophy statements that define each of the four areas for examination in the WASC accreditation process. Often, various educators within these departments informally collaborate and share instructional areas of growth and areas of strength.

Two particular areas of collaboration between the Theology department and other departments include the crossover with the Counseling department on the usage of the Naviance program and with the English department on the I-Search Project. In both cases, content in a student's Theology course, such as understanding one's self in the context of beginning a spiritual journey

Examples of Prayer

Mariner frosh on their retreat!

"In our moral theology classes, we get the opportunity to create our own sacred space by having each session start with a prayer service led by our classmates."
- student

Mr. Morneau anoints a student's forehead with ashes at an Ash Wednesday service.

"The retreat programs are helpful since they provide a place to focus and realize their Catholic identity and they return refreshed to serve and be examples in Moreau and in the surrounding community."
- community member

Mariner students gathering for prayer.

"Classes like Bible as Lit and Catholic Social Teaching provided me the opportunity to experience prayer in a different way. Meditations, discussions, and reflections on spiritual and moral matters were all ways that I was able to connect with my own faith, along with the faith of others, and further strengthen my understanding of my beliefs."
- student

Prayer

or acting and reflecting in service to others, is transferred to activities in other departments.

Data provided by students, parents and faculty and staff from the community-wide survey indicated that a large majority of the students and faculty and staff feel Moreau Catholic *Always/Usually* teaches the basic beliefs of Catholicism.

In looking at the survey data, 89% of students cited that Moreau Catholic is *Always/Usually* committed to teaching the basic beliefs of Catholicism. 75% of faculty and staff responded similarly with *Always/Usually*, but 12% cited that they had *No Access to Observe*. For the community members' survey response, 73% cited *Always/Usually*, and 27% cited *Sometimes*. The Theology department will continue to look for more opportunities to provide transparency regarding our curriculum and opportunities for dialogue.

Criterion 2: The school engages the Spirit through prayer and reflection.

The school begins each day with a community prayer that reflects the Holy Cross Mission, as well as sharing a context for liturgical holidays. All meetings and events at Moreau Catholic begin with a prayer to center participants and to frame the work to be done. All Theology courses begin each session with student-created and student-moderated prayer. Moreover, many courses include opportunities for student reflection on moral, spiritual, and/or mystical concepts and experiences found in literature, history, art, music, and science. According to our survey results, 82% of students, 82% of faculty and staff and 75% of community members cited that Moreau Catholic *Always/Usually* engages the Spirit through prayer and reflection.

Morning Liturgy is offered every Wednesday, and is attended by various faculty, staff, students, and greater community members. In addition, liturgical prayer is used by other student groups to help connect members and grow as a community of faith. For schoolwide Masses, attendance is mandatory in order to foster and celebrate as a whole faith community. All teachers prepare their classes with an appropriate "tone-setting," before they attend Mass, which includes reflective music and an opportunity to center and quiet one's self. Through MCTV, the school has sought to inform and reinforce positive Mass decorum for all students. The Campus Ministers are responsible for planning, coordinating and facilitating school liturgies. Feedback from the community is constantly sought to improve the liturgical experience for all.

For faculty and staff, the school provides an annual retreat prior to the beginning of the year as well as a Faith Formation speaker series for the wider community. Our faith and identity is always formed within the context of our communities and their symbols, languages, rituals and liturgies and strive towards an ever deepening and evolving understanding and communion with the Divine. The school understands and values the role of clergy in the ministry and spiritual development of the entire school community and employs a full-time chaplain who is involved in all spiritual activities of the school.

Individually, students are encouraged to reflect on their own spiritual journey through classroom activities, participation in sacraments, and attendance at retreats. Beginning last year, the Theology department challenges their students to create a "Spiritual Portfolio" that houses all important spiritual and reflective items for every course taken within their four years of Theology courses. Because this is a new piece of spiritual assessment, not all grades will have a four-year long Spiritual Portfolio, the graduating class of 2012 will be the first class to have collected spiritual evidence of their spiritual journey from frosh to senior year. In addition, students have the opportunity to participate in the Sacrament of Reconciliation during the Advent and Lenten seasons and during retreats.

Criterion 3: The school provides space conducive to various types of prayerful and reflective experiences both individual and communal.

Moreau Catholic High School has created open, dedicated prayer space in several areas on campus. The school's chapel is accessible to all members of the community and is used regularly for Wednesday morning liturgies, athletic team Masses, quiet prayer/reflection, and class prayer/reflection. According to our survey data, 82% of students, 82% of faculty and staff and 77% of community members cited that Moreau Catholic *Always/Usually* provides spaces for prayer and reflection.

In addition to formal spaces within the school, teachers use the school's outdoor spaces for quiet student reflection, meditation, or journaling activities. With its proximity to St. Clement Church, the school utilizes the church proper for the Sacrament of Reconciliation.

In many cases, classroom space or the school's gymnasium is transformed into sacred space for the purpose of prayer reflection/meditation, or liturgical celebration. On the campus grounds, a devotional statue of the Virgin Mary anchors a memorial sacred space. The classroom adjacent to the Campus Ministry office is a dedicated department space. It is used solely as a Theology multi-purpose room for freshman retreats or larger classroom spiritual experiences.

Criterion 4: The school is committed to a comprehensive four year retreat program for students.

Each year, Moreau Catholic High School offers students a retreat experience designed to invite them to experience personal and spiritual growth. At each class level, the retreat program has a different theme that builds to the next year and, ultimately, to the culminating three-day senior Kairos retreat experience. 86% of students and 91% of faculty and staff and

Examples of Prayer

Mariner Softball players pray as a team before taking the field.

"Moreau Catholic embodies spiritual aspects into co-curricular activities. We, as one, come together and celebrate God through prayers."
- student

Mariner student on a retreat.

"I just wanted to let you know I attended Mass in the gym this morning and was so impressed! I am new to Moreau, mother of a freshman, my eldest child. To see the gym come alive with the Holy Spirit and the enthusiasm of the students was awesome! I know my husband and I made the best choice when we decided on Moreau Catholic High School; we look forward to embracing all the wonderful things your school has to offer!"
- parent

This year, our frosh retreats were held on campus. The entire school community helped to create a sacred space for students to pray and grow spiritually.

"CMT and Ms. Tabora, the Director of Campus Ministry, always work hard to put together great Masses and daily prayers. They all try to incorporate Catholic/Christian teachings into our lives at school."
- student

Prayer

community members, cited that Moreau Catholic is *Always/Usually* committed to a comprehensive four year retreat program.

In the freshman year, our retreat theme is "Spirit of Holy Cross." Specifically, the retreat centers on being family, building respect, bringing hope and educating hearts and minds, which is this year's focus. Freshmen retreats are led by our senior student Campus Ministers and are an introduction to what it means to be part of the school community. One of our aims is for the freshmen to get to know themselves and their classmates. The retreat is also an opportunity to learn what it means to belong to the Moreau Catholic community.

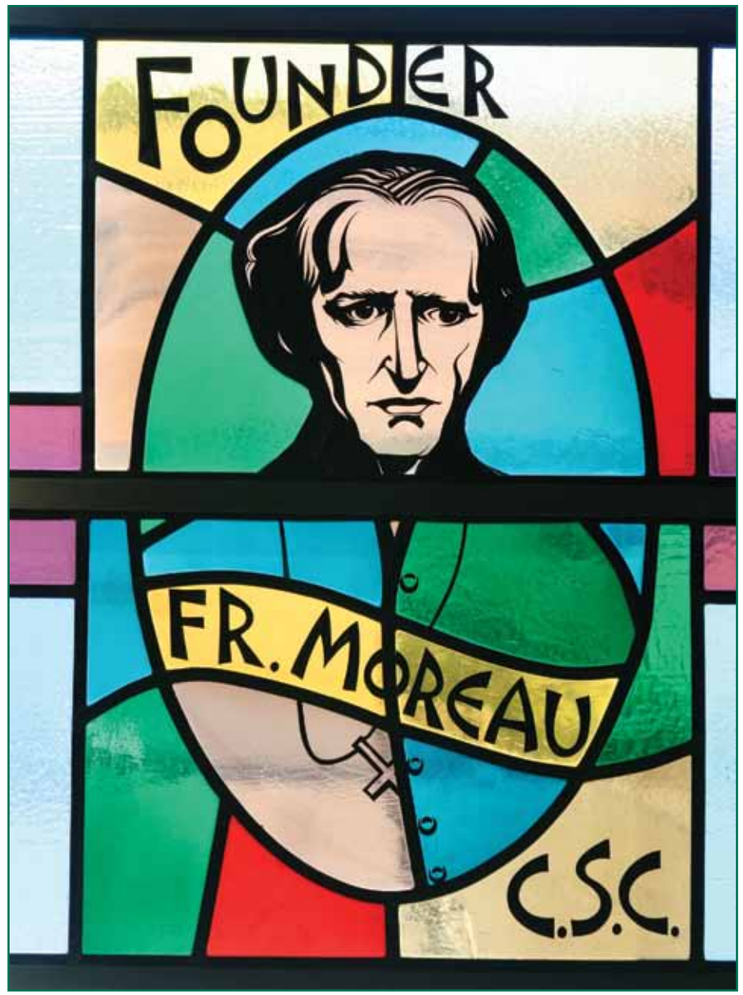
In the sophomore year, tenth grade students spend a day with their Moral Theology class at St. Anthony's Foundation in San Francisco's Tenderloin district. In "Solidarity with the Poor," students witness first-hand the difference they can make putting their faith in action as they deliver meals to the home-bound, sort clothes for distribution to the poor and needy, and prepare and serve lunch in the Foundation's dining room. Using the Pastoral Cycle process, students study, analyze, and reflect on their role in confronting the underlying causes and conditions of poverty in our society.

As upperclassmen, Moreau Catholic students have the opportunity for a more in-depth spiritual experience. All juniors are encouraged to participate in one of the two retreats offered to their class each school year. It is an overnight retreat experience that provides them structured activities to help form deeper relationships and quality time to reflect on issues of the heart and soul. The theme of the junior retreat is "Strength for the Journey." As they prepare for their senior year and take on more responsibilities, this retreat provides them an opportunity to recognize their "strengths" or support system: God, family, friends and their own inner strength. Kairos, or God's time, is an intensive three-day retreat for seniors. Led by trained faculty and student leaders, this is the culminating senior spiritual event that gives twelfth graders a deeply enriching, soul searching and interactive experience.

It is our hope that by the time a student graduates from Moreau Catholic, they will have integrated the four Holy Cross themes into their daily lives.

Throughout the retreat program, participating students are joined by faculty and staff members who share in, lead, and extend the retreat experience. Students who participate in their class retreats are afforded time to complete missed assignments and work without penalty. Outside of Moreau Catholic, many students volunteer in their parish retreats, namely confirmation retreats. As a community, Mariner students support one another throughout the retreat program.

2009-2010 Campus Ministry Team members participate in the Kairos retreat.



Where do We go from Here

Overview

In the Spring of 2009, Moreau Catholic created a committee to help guide the entire school through the process of examining our Catholic Identity and Holy Cross Mission. The Holy Cross Mission Assessment Committee met monthly to develop survey tools, discuss next steps, and bring together the plethora of stories and suggestions from all stakeholders. It was a process that allowed all community members an opportunity to share their stories of celebration, and offer suggestions for growth.

Simultaneously, Moreau Catholic also began a process of developing our schoolwide Strategic Plan 2010-2015. Several of the areas for growth identified through the Holy Cross Mission Assessment process were already identified and included in our Strategic Plan. Those items newly identified as areas of growth through this assessment process will be added to our Strategic Plan 2010-2015.

Message:

Mariner students take pride in the Holy Cross heritage of the school, and share those charisms easily with others. The Holy Cross charisms are a vehicle for helping students better understand the principles and values of their own Catholic faith. Moving forward, we have identified that we can continue by growing in this area:

- Providing more opportunities for expression of our Catholic faith.
- Strengthen communication and partnership with local parish educators and community.

Community:

Moreau Catholic is a family that takes pride in the diversity of our community. Students, from their first moments here on campus, feel connected to and part of the larger Holy Cross community. Moving forward, we have identified that we can continue by growing in this area:

- Provide more opportunities for students to develop leadership skills and increased involvement in the life of the school.
- Increasing parent engagement in the partnership between the school and their student.

Service:

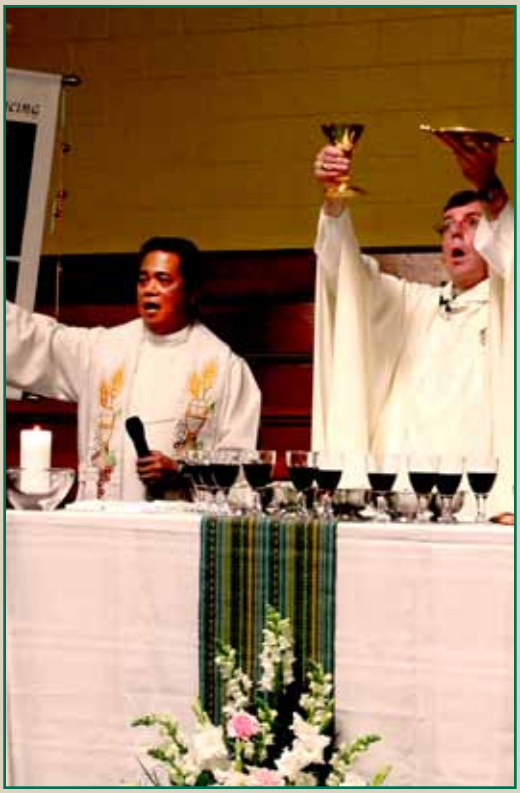
Moreau Catholic strives to meet the needs of all learners in our local community, and provide opportunities for students to continue a K-12 Catholic Education. Moving forward, we have identified that we can continue by growing in this area:

- Find new opportunities to celebrate our diversity.
- Continue to look at ways of expanding the diversity of our faculty and student body.
- Continue to investigate ways and means to interest, attract and retain economically, socially and academically marginalized students.
- Implement a Service Learning component across all grade levels and all subject areas.

Prayer:

Our community's dedication to our Catholic Identity and Holy Cross Mission can be seen throughout our classes, our liturgical celebrations, and in the leadership of our campus ministers. Moving forward, we have identified that we can continue by growing in this area:

- Continue with an ongoing review of our Theology course offerings.
- Greater transparency and communication with our larger community about opportunities on campus with prayer, reconciliation and liturgical celebrations.
- Continue strengthening the four-year retreat program with increased student participation.



STATEMENT OF MISSION

Moreau Catholic High School is dedicated to the legacy and values of the Congregation of Holy Cross and its founder Blessed Basil Moreau. We are a college-preparatory school committed to outstanding achievement. As a community of faith, we prepare our students through academic, social and spiritual learning experiences that form and transform them as they become responsible citizens of our global community.

MOREAU
CATHOLIC
HIGH SCHOOL

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